



2015 SESSION

ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTS

Business Page

[Signed by Chairman]

Roll Call

Standing Committee Reports

Tabled Bills

Fiscal Reports

Rolls Call Votes

Proxy Forms

Visitor Registrations

***Any other documents, which were submitted after the committee hearing has ended and/or was submitted late [within 48 hours], regarding information in the committee hearing.**

***Witness Statements that were not presented as exhibits.**

Montana Historical Society Archives

225 N. Roberts

Helena MT 59620-1201

2015 Legislative

E-Document Specialist Susie Hamilton

BUSINESS REPORT

**MONTANA SENATE
64th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION**

SENATE EDUCATION AND CULTURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Date: Friday, February 13, 2015
Place: Capitol

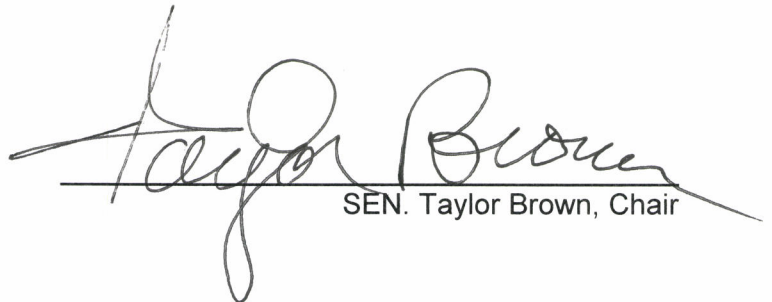
Time: 3:00 PM
Room: 422

BILLS and RESOLUTIONS HEARD:

HB 162 - Revise laws related to the Montana digital academy - Rep. Nicholas Schwaderer
SB 272 - Encourage Indian language immersion schools - Sen. Jonathan Windy Boy

EXECUTIVE ACTION TAKEN:

Comments:



SEN. Taylor Brown, Chair

MONTANA STATE SENATE
Roll Call
EDUCATION AND CULTURAL RESOURCES

DATE: FEB. 13, 2015

| <u>NAME</u> | <u>PRESENT</u> | <u>ABSENT/ EXCUSED</u> |
|-------------------------------------|----------------|----------------------------|
| SENATOR TAYLOR BROWN, CHAIRMAN | ✓ | |
| SENATOR MARK BLASDEL, VICE CHAIRMAN | ✓ | |
| SENATOR JILL COHENOUR | ✓ | |
| SENATOR LLEW JONES | ✓ | ✓ |
| SENATOR SHARON STEWART-PEREGOY | ✓ | |
| SENATOR BOB KEENAN | ✓ | |
| SENATOR MARY SHEEHY MOE | ✓ | |
| SENATOR ELSIE ARNTZEN | ✓ | |
| SENATOR TOM FACEY | ✓ | |
| SENATOR KRISTIN HANSEN | ✓ | |
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(arrived after
roll call)

MONTANA STATE SENATE
Visitors Register
SENATE EDUCATION AND CULTURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Friday, February 13, 2015

SB 272 - Encourage Indian language immersion schools

Sponsor: Sen. Jonathan Windy Boy

PLEASE PRINT

| Name | Representing | Support | Oppose | Info |
|------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------|--------|------|
| Merle Tendoy | Chippewa-Cree | ✓ | | |
| Jean Azure-Tendoy | " | ✓ | | |
| Leila Walking Child | Chippewa-Cree | ✓ | | |
| Mercedes Walking Child | Chippewa-Cree | ✓ | | |
| Sandi Pointer | Rocky Boy | ✓ | | |
| NATHANIEL ST. PIERRE | CHIPPEWA CREE / STONE CHILD COLLEGE | ✓ | | |
| Ken Helgeson | NAKODA | ✓ | | |
| Dustin Monroe | Nakoda / Blackfeet | ✓ | | |
| Jesse Desrosier | Blackfeet | ✓ | | |
| Charles Walking Child | Blackfeet/Cree/Chippewa | ✓ | | |
| Vanessa Old Coyote | Crow | ✓ | | |
| Kaydence Belle | Crow | ✓ | | |
| Dennis Parnman | OPI | | | |
| Steven Stewart Peregry | SD 21 | ✓ | | |
| Shane Morjeau | CS KT | X | | |
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Please leave prepared testimony with Secretary. Witness Statement forms are available if you care to submit written testimony.

SENATE EDUCATION AND CULTURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Sponsor: **Rep. Nicholas Schwaderer**

[illegible]

Please leave prepared testimony with Secretary. Witness Statement forms are available if you care to submit written testimony.



BLACKFEET NATION

SENATE EDUCATION

Exhibit No.

Additional Document

Date

2/12/15

P.O. BOX 850 BROWNING, MONTANA 59411 No. *SB 12, SB 14*
Telephone (406) 338-7521 Fax: (406) 338-7530

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

HARRY BARNES - CHAIRMAN
ILIFF SCOTT KIPP, SR. - VICE CHAIRMAN
TYSON T. RUNNING WOLF - SECRETARY
TINSUWELIA BIRDRAITLER - TREASURER

BLACKFEET TRIBAL BUSINESS COUNCIL

EARL OLD PERSON
HARRY BARNES
JOSEPH "JOE" MCKAY
NELSE ST. GODDARD
FORRESTINA CALFBOSRIBS
TYSON T. RUNNING WOLF
WILLIAM OLD CHIEF
ILIFF SCOTT KIPP SR.
CHERYL LYNN LITTLE DOG

RESOLUTION

No. 92-2015

WHEREAS, The Blackfeet Tribal Business Council is the duly constituted governing body within the exterior boundaries of the Blackfeet Indian Reservation; and

WHEREAS, The Blackfeet Tribal Business Council has been organized to represent, develop, and advance the views, interests, education, health, and resources of the Blackfeet Indian Nation; and

WHEREAS, The Blackfeet Tribal Business Council is empowered to negotiate with Federal, State, and Local governments and to conduct business affairs on behalf of the Blackfeet Tribe by Article VI, Section 1 (a) of the Constitution of the Blackfeet Tribe; and

WHEREAS, The Blackfeet Tribal Business Council is aware of two State of Montana Senate bills which concern the raising of the compulsory age at which children must attend school and the provision of funding for those Montana high school students who are nineteen (19) years of age; and

WHEREAS, The Blackfeet Tribal Business Council is aware that two Browning High School students, namely Travis Tailfeathers and Loren Rider, both nineteen (19) years of age and seniors testified on January 21, 2015 before the Montana State Senate Education Committee at the 2015 Montana Legislative Session in support of the two Senate Bills described above; now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

1. That the Blackfeet Tribal Business Council hereby goes on record to support Montana Senate Bill 14 which increases the compulsory school attendance age from sixteen (16) years to eighteen (18) years of age and mandates that all children receive either a high school education or post secondary education, and that the Blackfeet Tribe will change its law for compulsory school attendance from the age of up to sixteen (16) to the age of up to eighteen (18) years of age.

2. That the Blackfeet Tribal Business Council hereby goes on record to support Montana Senate Bill 12 which allocates ANV funding for children in the public schools up to nineteen (19) years of age.

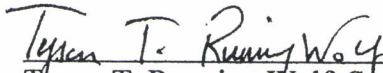
3. That the Blackfeet Tribal Business Council hereby commends Travis Tailfeathers and Loren Rider for testifying in favor of both of the above-described bills before the Montana Senate Education Committee and for positively representing both Browning High School and the Blackfeet people at the Montana State Legislature and encourages them and other students to continue to be involved in both the State and Tribal legislative process.


4. That a copy of this Resolution be delivered by the Harry Barnes, Chairman of the Blackfeet Tribal Business Council and Forrestina Calf Boss Ribs, Tribal Council member to members of the Montana Senate Education committee and to the Montana Governor's Office.

5. That the Chairman and Secretary are hereby authorized to sign this Resolution on behalf of the Blackfeet Tribal Business Council.

ATTEST

THE BLACKFEET TRIBE OF THE
BLACKFEET INDIAN RESERVATION



Tyson T. Running Wolf, Secretary
Blackfeet Tribal Business Council

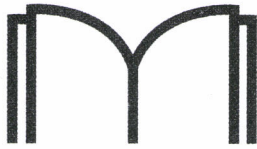

Harry Barnes, Chairman
Blackfeet Tribal Business Council

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was adopted by the Blackfeet Tribal Business Council during a duly called, noticed and convened General Session assembled for business the 5th Day of February, 2015, with six (6) members present to constitute a quorum, and six (6) members FOR, Zero (0) members OPPOSED, and Zero (0) members ABSTAINING.

(SEAL)


Tyson T. Running Wolf, Secretary
Blackfeet Tribal Business Council



MONTANA DIGITAL ACADEMY

**2014-2015
ORIGINAL
CREDIT
Courses**

MATHEMATICS

Pre-Algebra
Algebra I
Geometry
Algebra II with Trigonometry
Pre-Calculus
AP Calculus AB
Introduction to Statistics
Math & Liberal Arts

SCIENCE

Earth Science
Biology
Chemistry
Physics
Environmental Science
AP Biology
AP Physics 1
Oceanography
Crown of the Continent
Your Brain on School
Anatomy
Astronomy

CAREER & TECHNICAL ED.

Health Occupations/Careers
Microsoft Office Career Tech
Personal Finance
Web Design
Computer Science
Entrepreneurship
Sports & Entertainment Marketing

HEALTH / PE

Health
Physical Education I
Physical Education II

FAMILY & CONSUMER SCIENCE

Fashion & Interior Design
Now We're Cooking: Intro. to Culinary Arts

SPECIAL ELECTIVES

Native American Studies

ART/MUSIC

Digital Photography
Art History/Appreciation
Music Appreciation
Music Theory

ENGLISH / LANGUAGE ARTS

English 1
English 2
English 3
English 4
AP English Language and Composition
AP English Literature and Composition
Creative Writing
Mythology & Folklore

SOCIAL STUDIES

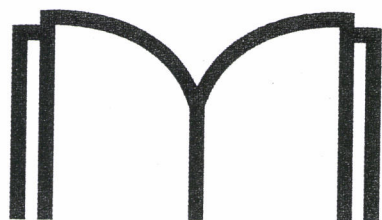
Global Studies
Montana History
World History
U.S. History
AP U.S. History
AP Government and Politics
American Government
Current Issues in Government
Psychology
AP Psychology
AP Macroeconomics
Criminology

WORLD LANGUAGE

Chinese 1 & 2
French 1, 2 & 3
Latin 1 & 2
Spanish 1, 2 & 3
German 1 & 2
Irish Language

MIDDLE SCHOOL ONLY

Middle School Multi-Language Sampler
Stepping Stones to Middle School Algebra 1



MONTANA DIGITAL ACADEMY

**2014-2015
MTDA
CONNECT
Credit
Recovery
Courses**

MATHEMATICS

Algebra 1 A & B CR
Algebra 2 A & B CR
Geometry A & B CR
Consumer Mathematics CR
Pre-Algebra A & B CR

HEALTH

Health CR

SOCIAL STUDIES

American History A & B CR
Economics A & B CR
Geography A & B CR
U.S. Government A & B CR
World History A & B CR

SCIENCE

Biology A & B CR
Earth & Space Science A & B CR
Chemistry A & B CR
Physics A & B CR

ENGLISH

English 9 A & B CR
English 10 A & B CR
English 11 A & B CR
English 12 A & B CR

ELECTIVES

Art History & Appreciation CR

Montana Digital Academy Highlights

February 18, 2015

Timeline/History

- **July 2009** – Montana Legislature approves \$2M funding to start Montana Digital Academy.
- **September 2010** – MTDA opens for student enrollment with 45 courses taught by licensed Montana teachers from 29 school districts.
- **April 2011** – Montana Legislature approves the 2011-2013 funding: \$2.3 M
- **June 2013** – Cumulative 3 year enrollment tops 18,000; Legislature approves 2013-15 funding.
- **February 2015** - MTDA offers 84 course titles taught by 104 licensed Montana teachers who have all successfully completed the MTDA online teacher training program. Estimate of cumulative 5 year enrollment will exceed 30,000.

MTDA high school programs:

Original Credit & Credit Recovery

Original Credit:

Purpose: *For students taking a class for the first time to expand or extend their learning.*

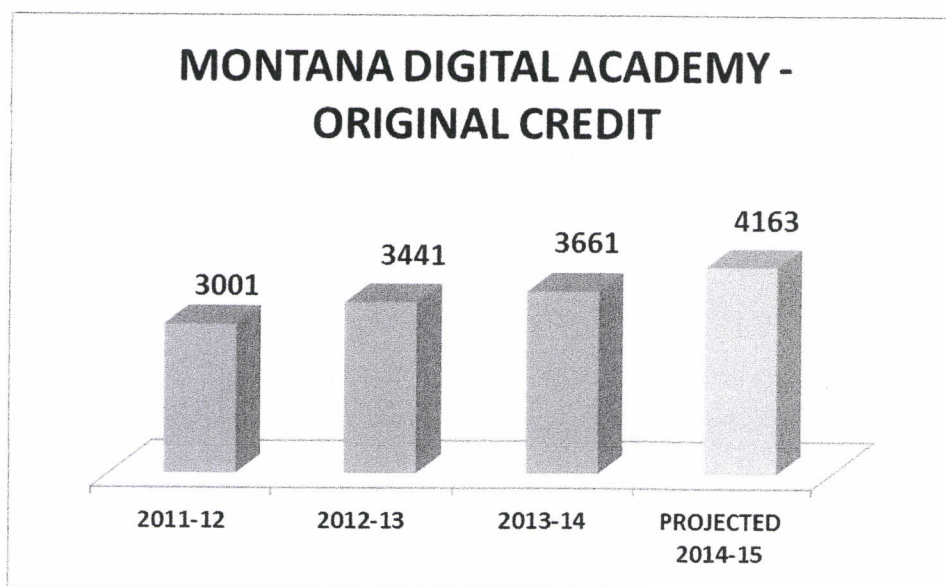
Courses: 59 Course titles in mathematics, science, English and social studies including: 8 AP™ advanced placement classes, 6 world languages and unique electives.

Delivery: 93 licensed Montana Teachers.

Style: Pacing is set up by the teacher. Students are in a cohort group.

Academic Calendar: All students start and end at the same time. Similar to face-to-face classroom.

Available: 24/7

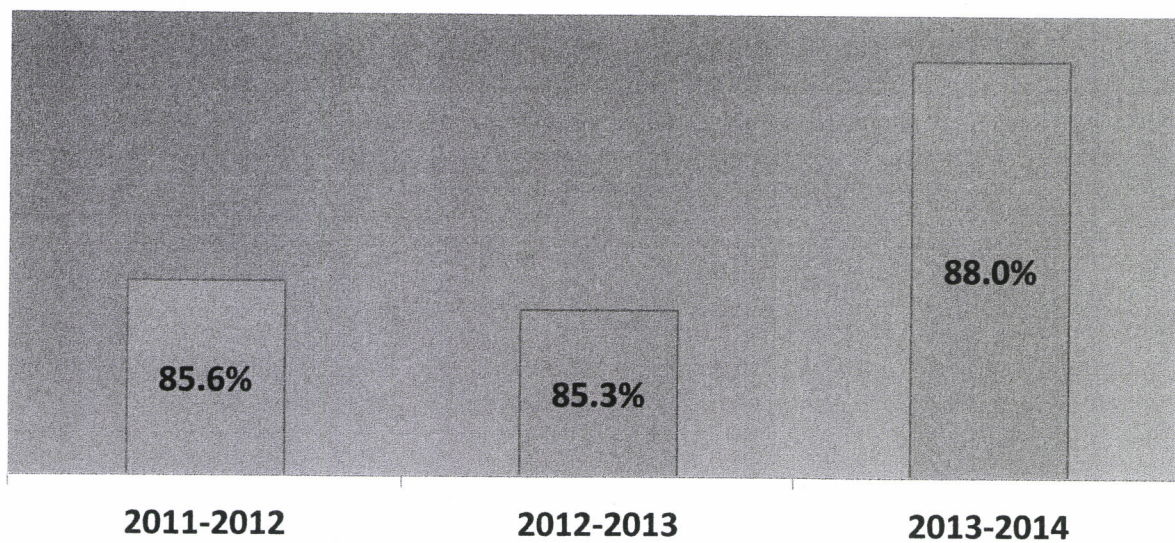


MTDA opened for Montana students in the fall of 2010 and offering original credit courses utilizing the services of teachers from Montana's public schools. The teachers all completed an online teaching training in preparation for the first semester. The title, original credit, was selected to denote that

these were classes designed for students taking the class for the first time to extend or expand their learning. In the 2010-11 school year many schools enrolled students in need of credit recovery in the original credit classes and for the most part they found that this do not meet the needs of these students. This trial during the first year led to the eventual development of the credit recovery program.

While the students who enroll in original credit classes are from high schools of all sizes across the state it does provide great academic access and equity for the very small class C and B high schools. The six world language classes are very popular in these schools as many have only one world language course offering. Also students from these schools enroll in upper level mathematics and science as well as advanced placement courses which again are not available to them in their small high schools.

MONTANA DIGITAL ACADEMY - Percentage of Student Enrollments Receiving a Passing Grade ORIGINAL CREDIT



This chart represents the percentage of student enrollments who have earned a passing grade in the original credit courses for the past three years. Most students take one or two classes annually however some enroll in more than that.

Credit Recovery:

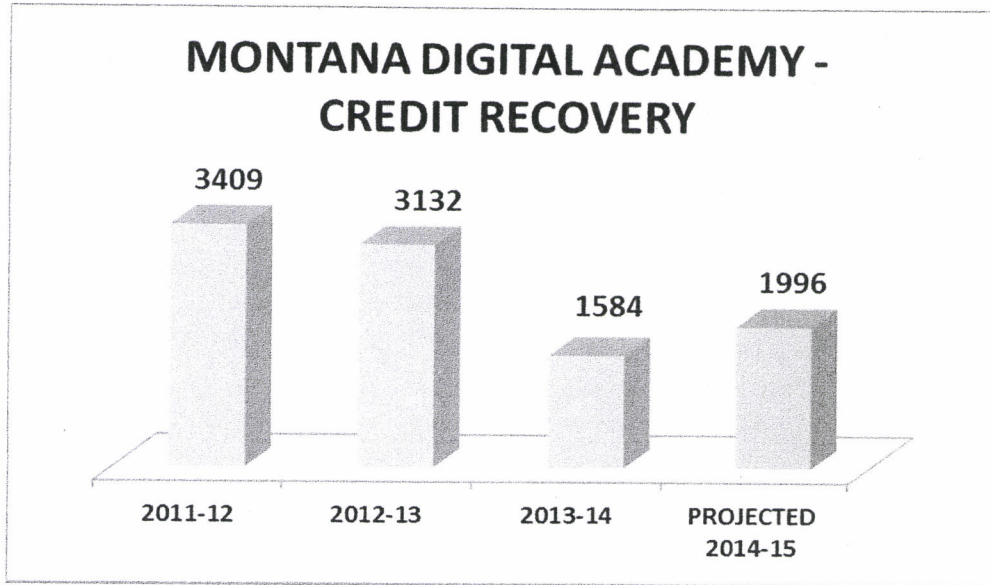
Purpose: *For students needing to make up a class they have failed.*

Courses: 20 Course titles in mathematics, science, English and social studies.

Delivery: 11 licensed Montana teachers that serve in the role of academic coach.

Style: Students work at their own pace.

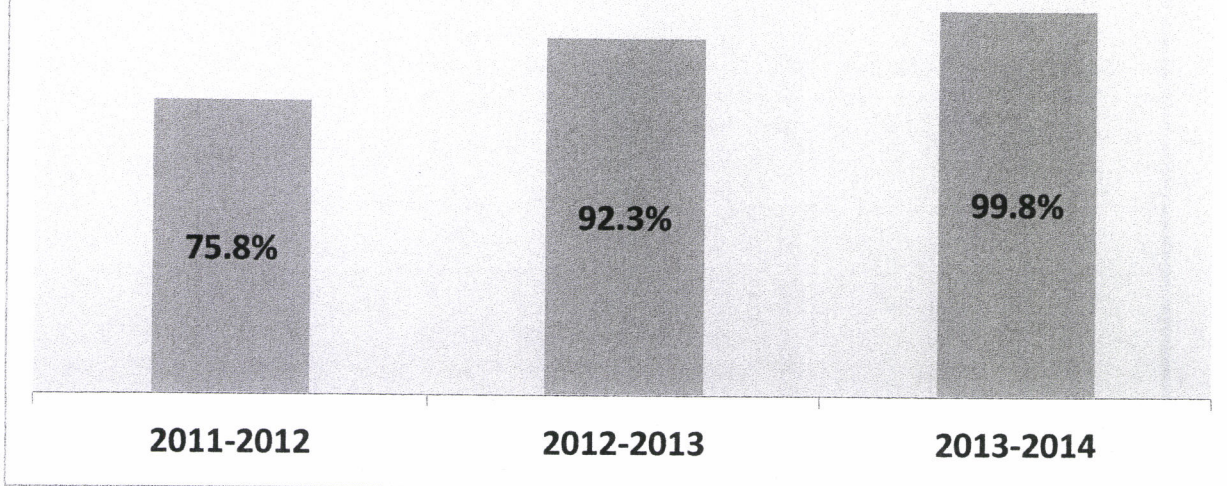
Academic Calendar: Open enrollment: Students are limited to one course; they can start a new course when finished but must finish course by the end of the semester.



Available: 24/7

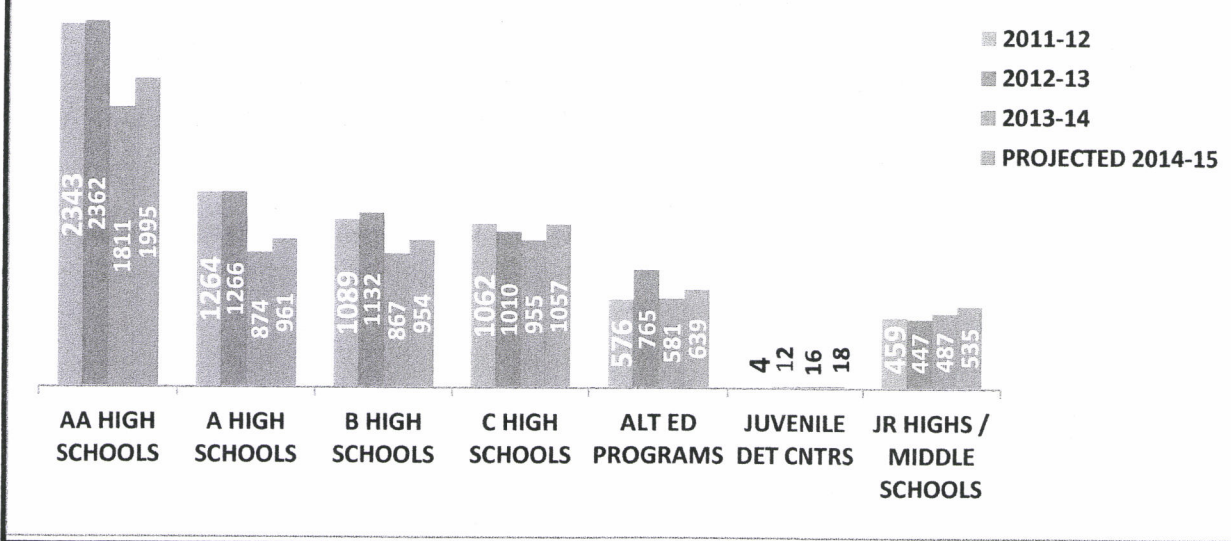
The credit recovery portion of the MTDA academic program was developed in response to the need identified and expressed by Montana educators, in particular superintendents, principals and counselors for a more flexible, student self-paced instructional model. Based on a mastery learning model which is designed to provide more student-paced, learning activities targeted, more appropriately, to reinforce or fill in the gaps in learning that occurred when students failed the course the first time. The MTDA credit recovery program has assisted thousands of Montana students in retrieving previously failed credits enabling them to get back on track for graduation with their peers. In 2013-14 MTDA instituted a major revision in the program designed to increase student opportunity for success. Beginning that year, in an effort to help students be more successful, they were limited to one enrollment at a time and then due to the flexible self-paced nature of the program they could complete the class as rapidly as they chose and immediately enroll in the next course. Prior to this modification students were enrolling in multiple courses at a time and many were not successfully completing them. While this has led to a noticeable decline in overall enrollments it has helped students to better manage their course load and it has provided them with a more realistic approach to getting back on track for graduation and has increased the rate of successful course completion.

MONTANA DIGITAL ACADEMY - Percentage of Student Enrollments Receiving a Passing Grade CREDIT RECOVERY



The chart above represents the percentage of student enrollments who have earned a passing grade in credit recovery classes for the past three years. MTDA began experimenting with the process of limiting enrollments in 2012-13 and fully implemented this procedure in 2013-14.

MONTANA DIGITAL ACADEMY - ENROLLMENTS BY MHSA HIGH SCHOOL SIZE & OTHER SCHOOLS/PROGRAMS



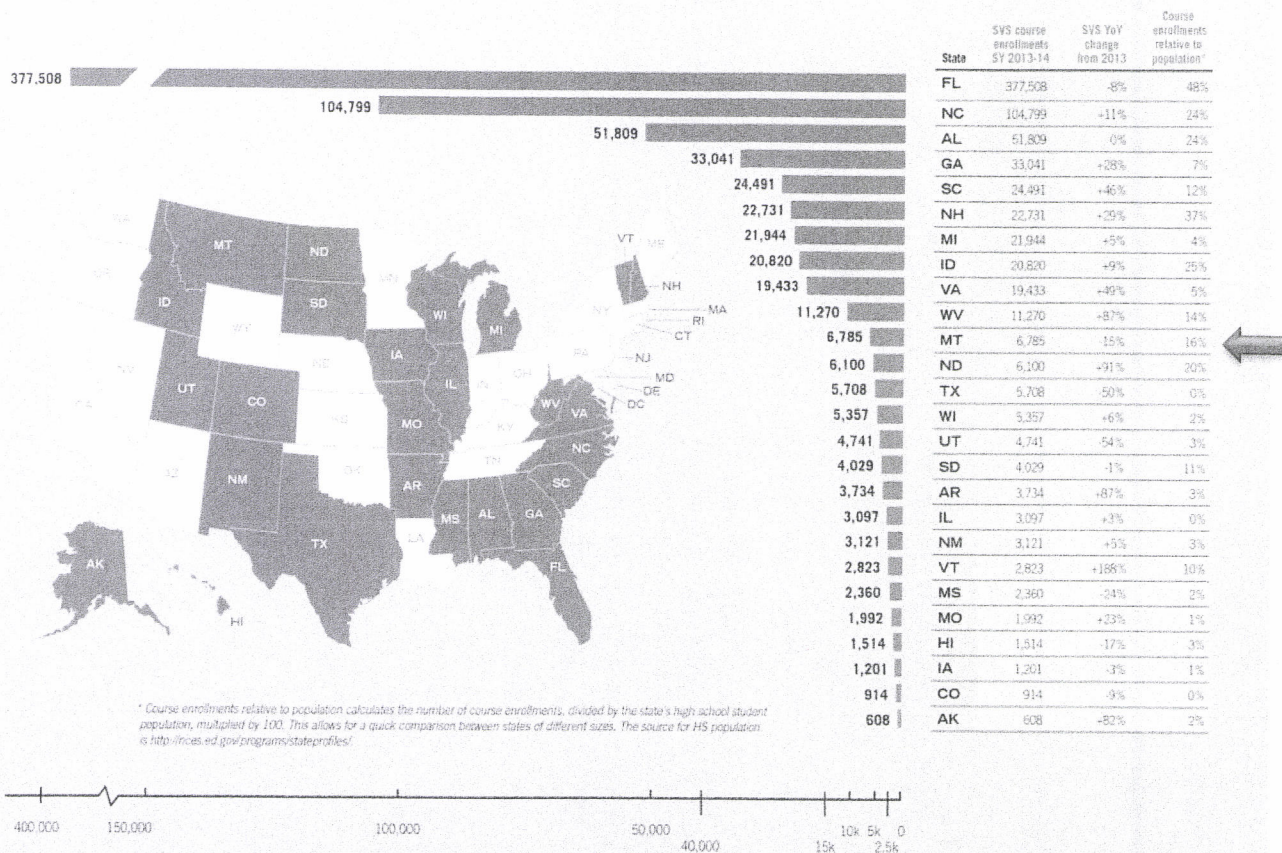
The chart above provides a three year overview of the usage by the high schools in Montana. For easy reference they are categorized using their Montana High School Association designation. The chart reflects the comprehensive use of MTDA by schools of all sizes across Montana.

A Comparison of Montana Digital Academy with the other state virtual schools.

2014

States with State Virtual Schools

FIGURE 1: COURSE ENROLLMENTS IN STATE VIRTUAL SCHOOLS



MTDA is in its fifth year of existence however it continues to have a strong presence with regard to the other 26 statewide virtual school programs. While the change in credit recovery program caused a decline in enrollments MTDA still had the **7th best course enrollment percentage** relative to the state high school population meaning MTDA is serving a very high number of Montana high school students when compared to other state virtual schools.

Source: *Keeping Pace with K-12 Digital Learning: An Annual Review of Policy and Practice (2014)*

<http://www.kpk12.com/>